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CIA No. 32230

INTERAGENCY INTELLIGENCE OPERATING PROCEDURE

DRAFT

SUBJECT: Permanent Watch Committee

AGENCIES PARTICIPATING IN THIS AGREEMENT: Central Intelligence Agency
Department of State
Department of the Army
Department of the Navy
Department of the Air Force

1. A permanent interagency intelligence committee (to be known as the Watch Committee) is hereby established to monitor and provide timely warning of Soviet intent to exploit its critical capabilities as outlined in DCI 4/2.

2. The Watch Committee shall act under the Chairmanship of the Central Intelligence Agency and shall be comprised of the currently constituted "Check List Group" which is hereby redesignated as the Watch Committee.

3. The Watch Committee shall, in the first instance, review the methods of procedure established by the Check List Group, placing particular emphasis on emergency procedures which will ensure its capability of functioning on short notice at any hour of day or night both during and outside the normal hours of official business.

4. Each member of the Watch Committee shall have free and speedy access to his superiors, including the highest level of intelligence authority in his agency, in order that emergency situations may be handled with the least possible delay and simultaneously with official approval.

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5. The Watch Committee shall conduct regularly scheduled bi-weekly meetings at 1000 hours on Wednesdays at places designated by the Chairman, effective with and subsequent to 1 September. Attendance at Watch Committee meetings shall be regarded as having priority over any other duty assigned to Watch Committee members. In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings, special meetings and emergency meetings will be called by the Chairman, Watch Committee, whenever the situation warrants such action.

6. The Watch Committee shall utilize the Check List and the check list network presently employed for the above stated purposes, in the conduct of its operations.

7. Each of the agencies represented on the Watch Committee is considered responsible for the evaluation of check list indicators in its fields of dominant interest as set forth in National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 3 and for dissemination thereof to the Central Intelligence Agency Chairman. In addition each agency has the correlative responsibility for developing new "indicators" required to round out, improve and maintain the Check List as an effective working instrument for these purposes.

8. The Central Intelligence Agency is responsible under the National Security Act of 1947 as amended, and in accordance with applicable National Security Council Intelligence Directives, for the production of national intelligence estimates based upon data concerning any or all "indicators" of the Check List bearing on a given situation.

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9. Specific responsibilities of the members of the Watch Committee shall include, but are not necessarily limited to, those set forth below:

a. The Central Intelligence Agency Chairman shall:

(1) Maintain the Master Check List.

(2) Convene the Watch Committee as the need arises, either on his own initiative or when requested by a member.

(3) Prepare bi-weekly summaries of the activities of the Watch Committee for the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Committee members of the participating agencies.

(4) Be responsible for the production of summaries based on "indicators" and on evaluations thereof developed by the respective members of the Watch Committee. Such summaries shall serve as a basis for coordinated national intelligence estimates by the Central Intelligence Agency, as provided for in Paragraph 6, National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 1.

b. Each Departmental Member of the Watch Committee shall:

(1) Maintain a supplementary Check List corresponding to fields of responsibility of his agency for intelligence production.

(2) Forward to the Central Intelligence Agency Chairman:

(a) Information concerning any of the "indicators" and his evaluation thereof.

(b) Reports of emergency action taken, if any, on intelligence items of urgent nature.

(c) Proposals for the addition of new "indicators" or the deletion of "indicators" considered as no longer valid.

(3) Prepare, or provide, as required, summaries of intelligence bearing on those "indicators" which fall within his department's particular fields of responsibility.

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